

## Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSM-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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DHA-02 ORM-02 ACDA-07 SCCT-01 AID-05 SY-05 OC-06

CCO-00 /110 W

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O R 161352Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9142

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, LE

SUBJECT: AUGUST 16 SYRIAN MEDIA REPORT NO FURTHER DETAILS OF SYRO-PALESTINIAN DISCUSSIONS

1. SYRIAN MEDIA HAVE NOT REPORTED FURTHER DETAILS OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN SYRIAN AND PALESTINIAN DELEGATIONS WHICH MET IN DAMASCUS EVENING AUGUST 14 AND ANNOUNCED AUGUST 15. IN BEIRUT, MEDIA NOTED POLITICAL CONTACTS CONTINUING TO CONSOLIDATE CEASE-FIRE BUT CLASHES UNDERWAY IN BEIRUT AND ITS SUBURBS. ACCORDING TO PRESS, SITUATION IN NORTH HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DETERIORATED WITH SHELLING OF TRIPOLI.

2. AL MEDIATOR DR. KHOULI STATED TO TISHRIIN BEFORE DEPARTING SYRIA FOR CONSULTATION WITH AL SEC GEN RIAD THAT HIS RECENT MEETING WITH PRESIDENT ASAD HAD BEEN FRUITFUL. HE ADDED THAT HIS TALKS WITH PLO LEADERS IN DAMASCUS WERE ARRANGED IN ORDER TO OBTAIN DETAILS ABOUT RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF DAMASCUS ACCORD. HE EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR ARAB SUMMIT TO DISCUSS LEBANON. PRESS REPORTED SEPARATELY DR. KHOULI HAD DISMISSED POSSIBILITY THAT LEBANON WOULD BE PARTITIONED.

3. SAIQA COMMANDER ZUHAYR MUHSIN TOLD AUGUST 15 PRESS GATHERING IN CHTAURA THAT BEST COURSE FOR PLO TO FOLLOW WAS SOLIDARITY WITH SYRIA AND UNIFICATION OF PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE GROUPS. MEDIA REPORTED THAT MUHSIN DENOUNCED FABRICATED PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGNS BEING DIRECTED AGAINST SYRIA BY JUMBLATT AND BY DEVIANT PLO LEADERS. HE CALIMED TRAGEDY IN LEBANON PLANNED BY IMPERIALISTS AND ZIONISTS IN ACCORD WITH ATTEMPTS TO COVER UP SINAI AGREEMENT.

4. TISHRIIN COLUMNIST CHARGED THAT PRESIDENT SADAT, WHO GOVERNING AMIDST "SWAMP OF TREASON," SPEARHEADED LEBANESE PLOT BY SIGNING SINAI ACCORD. WRITER REMARKED SADAT STILL HEADING PLOT, AND CITED AS EVIDENCE EGYPTIAN POLITICAL AND PROPAGANDA ATTACKS AGAINST SYRIA.

5. COMMENT: DR. KHOULI DEPARTS DAMASCUS AFTER HAVING HELPED ARRANGE FINAL EVACUATION OF TELL ZAATAR, BUT WITH LITTLE ELSE OF SUBSTANCE. TO HIS CREDIT HE SHOWED ADMIRABLE PERSISTENCE IN MAINTAINING ROUND OF POLITICAL CONTACTS. SARG LEADERSHIP SHOWED HIM SOME DEFERENCE BUT DID NOT CONSIDER HIM DIPLOMATIC HEAVYWEIGHT.  
MURPHY

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## Message Attributes

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